

Application No. 09/940,822
Amendment filed with RCE

Customer No. 01933

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended to correct a minor informality of which the undersigned has become aware. No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendment to the specification be approved and entered.

THE CLAIMS

Claims 37-39 have each been amended to clarify the feature of the present invention whereby the images on the server are pre-stored on the server, as supported by the disclosure in the specification at, for example, page 10, lines 20-22, and page 20, lines 8-24.

In addition, claim 37 has also been amended to avoid reciting a "print" method, as required by the Examiner, as well as to avoid unnecessarily reciting the step of determining whether a download request is issued.

Still further, claim 38 has been amended to avoid unnecessarily reciting the "determining" step, as well as to more positively recite printing, at the printer, the at least one received image.

Application No. 09/940,822
Amendment filed with RCE

Customer No. 01933

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully submitted that the amendments to the claims are clarifying in nature. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 37 was rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by USP 6,167,469 ("Safai et al"), and claims 38 and 39 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Safai et al, USP 6,348,972 ("Taniguchi et al") and USP 6,553,240 ("Devarics"). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed.

According to the present invention as recited in clarified amended independent claim 37, a method is provided which comprises acquiring a caller's number of a portable communication terminal, when the portable communication terminal accesses a server through a network; causing the portable communication terminal to display thumbnails corresponding to pre-stored images on the server; determining, at the server, whether the portable communication terminal has issued a registration command to register at least one of the pre-stored images on the server corresponding to at least one of the thumbnails displayed by the portable communication terminal; and relating, at the server, the at least one selected image with the caller's number and storing

Application No. 09/940,822
Amendment filed with RCE

Customer No. 01933

the selected image in association with the caller's number when it is determined that the portable communication terminal has issued the registration command.

That is, according to the present invention as recited in clarified amended independent claim 37, pre-stored images are available on a server. A portable communication terminal can access the server to display thumbnails corresponding to the pre-stored images, and the portable communication terminal can issue a registration command with respect to one or more selected ones of the pre-stored images. The at least one selected image is then related (at the server) with the caller's number and stored in association with the caller's number.

According to the present invention as recited in clarified amended independent claim 38, moreover, a print method is provided which comprises: connecting a portable communication terminal to a server through a network; displaying, on the portable communication terminal, thumbnails corresponding to pre-stored images on the server; selecting, at the portable communication terminal, at least one of the thumbnails; and transmitting, from the portable communication terminal to the server, a registration command for relating the at least one pre-stored image corresponding to the at least one selected thumbnail with a caller's number of the portable communication terminal, and storing the at least one selected image in association with the related caller's number on the server. The portable

Application No. 09/940,822
Amendment filed with RCE

Customer No. 01933

communication terminal is then disconnected from the server. A printer is then connected to the server through the portable communication terminal, when it is determined that a print command has been issued at the printer. A download request is transmitted from the printer to the server after the print command has been issued; at least one image stored in association with the related caller's number, which is transmitted from the server in response to the download request, is received at the printer, and the at least one received image is then printed at the printer.

Amended independent claim 39, moreover, recites a print system along the lines of the print method of claim 38.

Thus, according to the present invention as recited in each of amended independent claims 37-39, images are pre-stored on the server, and at least one of the images may be selected for registration by a portable communication terminal that is accessing the server by selecting a thumbnail image displayed at the portable communication terminal. The selected image(s) is related with the caller's number of the portable communication terminal at the server.

With this structure, desired images that are already on the server (i.e., pre-stored) are selected via a portable communication terminal and are associated on the server with the portable communication terminal such that a printer may access the server through the portable communication terminal and

Application No. 09/940,822
Amendment filed with RCE

Customer No. 01933

download and print the images. Thus, even after the portable communication terminal has disconnected from the server (as recited in claims 38 and 39), the printer can reconnect to the server through the portable communication terminal and can request that the selected image be transmitted, since the image is associated with the caller's number. It is therefore unnecessary for the images to be downloaded first to the phone, then processed by the operating system by the phone to be made available for the printer. And it is thereby possible for the problem described in the Background of the Invention portion of the specification whereby when the phone operates as a data processing terminal for images, the images cannot be easily printed.

It is respectfully submitted that Safai et al does not at all disclose, teach or suggest designating pre-stored images on a server.

Instead, in the system of Safai et al, images that are to be transmitted (possibly for printing) are designated at a camera and then when the camera is instructed to transmit the images, the camera connects to the server to send images and any accompanying information (addresses, sound data, etc.) to the server. Thus, according to Safai et al images are sent from the camera to the server, and once the images are received at the server, it is determined whether the images must be printed (column 13, line 39 to page 14, line 43). For example, if the

Application No. 09/940,822
Amendment filed with RCE

Customer No. 01933

camera has designated a physical address as a destination for the images, then the server must have hard copies of the photos made and must cause the hard copies to be sent to the physical address (column 14, lines 9-13 and 30-43).

Thus, in the system of Safai et al, in the process of printing a photo via a server, the image is designated at the camera and an address that will cause the image to be printed is set at the camera. Only then is the image and address sent to the server.

It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that Safai et al clearly does not disclose, teach or suggest accessing a server with a portable communication terminal, displaying (at the portable communication terminal) thumbnails corresponding to pre-stored images on the server, and determining (at the server) whether the portable communication terminal has issued a registration command to register at least one of the pre-stored images on the server corresponding to at least one of the thumbnails displayed by the portable communication terminal, so as to relate (at the server) the selected image with the caller's number. Indeed, it is respectfully pointed out that the thumbnail images of Safai et al, which have been pointed out by the Examiner, are thumbnail images of image data stored on the camera, not on the server (column 10, lines 33-37).

In addition, it is respectfully submitted that Taniguchi et al and Dervarics also do not disclose selecting at least one pre-

Application No. 09/940,822
Amendment filed with RCE

Customer No. 01933

stored image on a server (based on thumbnails displayed at a portable communication terminal) to relate the image(s) with the portable communication terminal caller's number, as according to the claimed present invention.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as recited in clarified amended independent claims 37-39 clearly patentably distinguishes over Safai et al, taken singly or in combination with Taniguchi et al and Dervarics, under 35 USC 102, as well as under 35 USC 103.

* * * * *

Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

Douglas Holtz
Reg. No. 33,902

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman & Chick, P.C.
220 Fifth Avenue - 16th Floor
New York, New York 10001-7708
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900
Fax No. (212) 319-5101

DH:iv